WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1.   A sales managing method for a seller who accepts an
on-line order from a terminal of a purchaser comprising the
steps of:
        obtaining the number of articles in stock which are
owned by an article supply source for supplying the articles
to the seller; and
        determining the stock number situation of articles
calculated on the basis of the stock number of articles owned
by the seller and the stock number of articles owned by the
article supply source, wherein when an order request
containing information to specify an article and the number
of the ordered articles is accepted from the terminal of
the purchaser, the information based on the order number
of the article thus specified and the stock number situation
of the articles thus specified is displayed on the terminal
of the purchaser.

2.   A sales managing system for a seller which accepts an
on-line order from a terminal of a purchaser, comprising
the steps of:
        obtaining the number of articles in stock which are

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5 owned by an article supply source for supplying the articles

6 to the seller; and

7   determining the stock number situation of articles

8 calculated on the basis of the stock number of articles owned

9 by the seller and the stock number of articles owned by the

10 article supply source,

11   wherein the stock number situation is regarded as

12 being allocatable stock by the seller, and order accepting

13 processing is carried out.

1 3.   The sales managing method as claimed in claim 1 or 2,

2 wherein the stock number situation is equal to the total

3 number of the stock number of the article owned by the seller

4 and the number corresponding to the ratio of the number of

5 articles allocated to the seller to the number of articles

6 owned by the article supply.

1 4.   The sales managing method as claimed in claim 1,

2 wherein the information corresponding to the order content

3 and the stock number situation indicates any one of "the

4 article is in stock", "the article may run out of stock"

5 and "the article is out of stock".

1 5.   A sales managing method for a seller which accepts an

2 on-line order from a terminal of a purchaser comprising the

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3   steps of:

4   obtaining a stock number situation calculated on the

5   basis of an article stock number owned by the seller; and

6   when an order request containing information to

7   specify an article and an order number is accepted from the

8   terminal of the purchase, displaying on the terminal of the

9   purchaser information corresponding to the order number of

10   the article thus specified and the stock number situation

11   of the article thus specified.

1   6.   The sales managing method as claimed in claim 5,

2   wherein the information corresponding to the order number

3   of the article and the stock number situation indicates any

4   one of "the article is in stock" and "the article may run

5   out stock".

1   7.   A sales managing method for a seller which accepts an

2   on-line order from a terminal of a purchaser, wherein

3   article allocating processing to an order accepted on the

4   on-line comprises the steps: investigating articles in

5   stock owned by the seller, and allocating the articles in

6   stock if the articles can be allocated, or requesting an

7   allocation to an article supply source for supplying

8   articles to the seller.

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1   8.   The sales managing system as claimed in claim 7,

2   wherein when a notification that it is impossible to

3   allocate the articles is received from the article supply

4   source to which the allocation is requested, the dealing

5   of the articles concerned with the purchaser is canceled.

1   9.   A sales managing system for accepting an order of

2   articles through a network comprising:

3   means for storing the stock number of articles owned

4   by a seller and the stock number of articles owned by an

5   article supply source for supplying articles to the seller;

6   and

7   means for setting a stock number situation based on

8   the stock number of the articles owned by the seller and

9   the stock number of the articles owned by the article supply

10   source,

11   wherein, when an order request containing information

12   to specify an article and an order number of the article

13   is accepted, the information corresponding to the order

14   number of the article thus specified and the stock number

15   situation of the article thus specified is on-line outputted

16   to an order source on a line.

1   10.   A sales managing system for accepting an order of

2   articles through a network comprising:

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3   means for storing the stock number of articles owned

4 by a seller and the stock number of articles owned by an

5 article supply source for supplying articles to the seller;

6 and

7   means for setting a stock number situation based on

8 the stock number of the articles owned by the seller and

9 the stock number of the articles owned by the article supply

10 source, wherein the stock number situation is set as stock

11 which can be allocated by the seller, and order accepting

12 processing is carried out.

1 11.   The sales managing system as claimed in any one of

2 claims 9 and 10, wherein the stock number situation is equal

3 to the total number of the stock number of the article owned

4 by the seller and the number corresponding to the ratio of

5 the number of articles allocated to the seller to the number

6 of articles owned by the article supply.

1 12.   The sales managing system as claimed in claim 9,

2 wherein the information corresponding to the order content

3 and the stock number situation indicates any one of "the

4 article is in stock", "the article may run out of stock"

5 and "the article is out of stock".

1 13.   A sales managing system for accepting an order of

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2   articles through a network, comprising:

3   means for storing the stock number of articles owned

4   by a seller; and

5   means for setting a stock number situation based on

6   the stock number of articles owned by the seller, wherein

7   when an order request containing information to specify an

8   article and an order number of the article is accepted, the

9   information corresponding to the order number of the article

10   thus specified and the stock number situation of the article

11   thus specified is on-line-output to an order source.

1   14.   The sales managing system as claimed in claim 13,

2   wherein the information corresponding to the order number

3   of the articles and the stock number situation indicates

4   any one of "the article is in stock" and "the article may

5   run out of stock".

1   15.   A sales managing system for accepting an order of

2   articles through a network, comprising article allocating

3   means for allocating articles to an order accepted, wherein

4   said article allocating means investigates the stock of

5   articles owned by a seller, and allocates the stock articles

6   if the articles can be allocated or requests allocation of

7   articles to an article supply source for supplying articles

8   to the seller.

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1   16.   The sales managing system as claimed in claim 15,

2   wherein when accepting from the article supply source a

3   notification that it is impossible to allocate the articles,

4   the dealing of the articles concerned with the order source

5   is canceled.

1   17.   A computer readable recording medium for recording a

2   program for making a computer execute the steps of:

3   accepting an on-line order from a terminal of an order

4   source;

5   managing the stock number of articles owned by a

6   seller;

7   obtaining the number of articles in stock which are

8   owned by an article supply source for supplying the articles

9   to a seller;

10   determining a stock number situation calculated on the

11   basis of the stock number of articles owned by the seller

12   and the stock number of articles owned by the article supply

13   source; and

14   when an order request containing information to

15   specify an article and an order number of the article is

16   accepted from the terminal of the order source, displaying

17   the information corresponding to the order number of the

18   article thus specified and the stock number situation of

19   the article thus specified on the terminal of the order

20 source.

1 18. An article sales system in which plural sellers for
2 dealing specific articles supplied from the same article
3 supply source accept orders of customers on the article
4 on-line, wherein each of the sellers manages the articles
5 by regarding as a virtual stock number the total of an
6 expected rate of articles to be achievable at the seller
7 side to the stock number of the article supply source, as
8 obtained according to previously defined rules and the stock
9 number of articles owned by the seller itself, and carries
10 out order-accepting processing on the basis of the virtual
11 stock number.

1 19. The article sales system as claimed in claim 18, when
2 it is impossible to allocate the articles to an order which
3 has been subjected to the order accepting processing, the
4 dealings of the articles with the customers are canceled.